

# THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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## HOW CAN I KNOW I AM SAVED?

How People Are Saved and Kept Saved; Sweet Assurance From the Word of God

BY JOHN R. RICE

"We know that we have passed from death unto life," said the inspired apostle John (I John 3:14). Again he said, "And hereby we know that we are of the truth" (I John 3:19). And yet again he said, "And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us" (I John 3:24).

Then one can KNOW that he is saved. In fact, this epistle of First John is written so that doubting Christians may know — "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (I John 5:13).

In San Antonio, Texas, in 1930 the crowd was assembling for a revival service under the tent where I was preaching each night. Two lovely girls, sixteen and eighteen years old, came under the tent and I spoke to them and said to the elder sister, "Are you a Christian?"

"Why, I — I don't know. I don't think you can know whether you are a Christian until you die," she said.

"Yes," I said, "You can know about it. If I show you from the Bible that you can know for sure whether you are saved or not, and show you how to know, would you like to know?"

"Yes, I would," she said. So I got my Bible and opened it to First John 5:13, quoted above. I showed her that one could know that this part of the Bible was written that one might know that he had eternal life. Then I showed her the verses above, that God had given eternal life and that this life was in His Son, that he that believed on the Son had the life. Tears sprang quickly to her eyes and with an honest heart she trusted the Saviour and received the happy assurance, knowing that she had eternal life. Then her younger sister likewise was happily converted.

Dear reader, do you know beyond a doubt that you are a child of God? Do you know that your sins are forgiven? Do you know that if you should die just now you would be carried like Lazarus by the angels to Abraham's bosom? Or if Jesus should come today would you be received like the wise virgins with oil in their lamps, the oil of salvation?

John said again and again, "WE KNOW!" Saints of the Bible knew that they were saved. Job said: "For I know that my re-

deemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

"And though, after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:25, 26).

David cried out in Psalms 17:15:

"As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

No doubt there! And I can imagine aged Paul the apostle, sitting in a Roman prison cell, with chains upon hands and feet, lifting his face exultantly as he dictated to a young helper, the second letter to Timothy.

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (II Tim. 4:8).

We know! New Testament Christians were sure of their salvation. Jesus commanded Christians to be so sure that their names are written in Heaven, that they would go (CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## The False Front of the Federal Council

By William B. Riley, A. M., LL. D., and Dan Gilbert, LL. D.

### Read Drs. Riley and Gilbert on the Federal Council of Churches

On this page is an article about the Federal Council of Churches, written by Dr. W. B. Riley of Minneapolis, the grand old man of Fundamentalism, and Dr. Dan Gilbert, the vigorous and brilliant young author of *Crucifying Christ in Our Colleges*, and other volumes greatly used of God in the last few years.

Let readers take note of the wicked nature of the Federal Council of Churches, how it will seek to dominate churches, how it leads more and more into modernism and unbelief, even toward Communism and wicked immorality. We hope you will note the plain words about Kagawa who spoke in Dallas at the First Baptist Church and Dr. E. Stanley Jones who was here also with the Preaching Mission of the Federal Council of Churches which met in the First Baptist Church. The south should take warning about these modernists.

We thank Dr. Riley and Dr. Gilbert for this splendid article which we are glad to publish in *The Sword of the Lord*.

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America has been a bone of contention from the time of its birth. Its direct effect upon the denominations has been division in many churches. With it neither the Southern Baptist Convention nor the Southern Presbyterian Assembly has shown the least sympathy, while both these bodies in the north have been divided and injured by their Federal Council affiliation. The purpose of this discussion is to show clearly its anti-Christian attitudes and activities. We bring against it three specific charges, presenting positive proof for each, namely — False Claims, False Creed, and False Conclusions.

#### False Claims

*First, As To Its Representation!* When before Congress, lobbyists in Washington were seeking the enactment of laws on birth-control and kindred subjects, they quoted from speeches, books and pamphlets approved by the Federal Council, and claimed that they (the Federal Council) represented twenty million Christians. They claimed that the Christian churches of America were with them. The falsity of such claims immediately becomes apparent when it is remembered that the largest body of people on the American continent, the Southern Baptists, have repeatedly refused this fellowship, as have also the great body of Lutherans and that of Southern Presbyterians; while in their northern conquests they have only succeeded in winning to their aid astute politicians in official station. They have never at any time had the unanimous approval of one Convention, nor have they dared to submit their case to the individual action of State Conventions or local churches.

It is our profound conviction that not one member in a hundred, or one Christian layman in ten, who is at all informed upon the subject, favors the Federal Council. Think of their claiming the backing of the First Baptist Church of Minneapolis with its 3,500 members, not one of whom would defend or even fellowship it! That church is a sample of hundreds of others.

*Then Also As To Responsibility of Speech!* On occasions when it is convenient and to their advantage to do so, they profess to be the mouthpiece of twenty millions, the moment that their utterances strike any unfavorable reaction from public opinion, they change color, and insist that this was only an individual's opinion.

#### PASTOR IN DALLAS THROUGH FIRST HALF OF OCTOBER

A planned revival at Minneapolis has been postponed for the present, and the pastor is happy that he can be with his people in Dallas for two weeks longer before going to St. Paul, Minnesota, October 16th. Let us make it a great time of soul winning and Bible teaching. Bring your neighbors and friends to this friendly tabernacle where the Lord Jesus has blessed so many hundreds of souls.

ly welcome in the pastor's large class. Here men and women bring their Bibles and learn together verse after verse, chapter by chapter, the Word of God. There are classes for all ages, from babies up, with earnest, consecrated teachers. Be on time, 9:30.

not theirs. For instance, when their deliverance on the subject of Prohibition was impaled by the arguments of Dr. True Wilson, they immediately took to cover and threw the responsibility onto the spokesman. The same thing occurred when quotations from the vile teachings found in the book entitled "Young People's Relationships" defeated their endeavor to line up Southern Presbyterianism. In that case, public opinion even compelled them to withdraw their name and approval from its later issues. It is another case of "Now you see it and now you don't!"

*Equally False Is Their Statement Of Objectives!* Before concluding this communication, we shall attempt to show that those objectives are, as a rule, deftly covered. In their early history they were charged with making concerted efforts "to influence the action of the Government on such questions as world peace, disarmament, national defense, immigration, labor, industry, foreign relations, etc." Dr. Shailer Matthews, then ex-President of the Council, denied the indictment, saying that "such charge was not fair," and that "in so far as the Federal Council touched upon such matters, their approach was absolutely non-political." A later president, however, Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, revealed the truth in the following words, "The American churches are going to grapple courageously with the great social and international questions. The day is past when any realm of our economic, industrial, social or political life will be regarded as outside the sphere and responsibility of the churches." At present there is scarcely a political question of any importance upon which the Federal Council is not vocal, and its custom of claiming to represent twenty millions—the great majority of whom repudiate it entirely—has become a fixed habit.

We pass from false claims to a

#### False Creed

The leaders of this movement reject the creed of the Evangelicals. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

### Dallas Bible School Thanksgiving Week, November 20 - 27

We expect the largest attendance we have ever had, possibly twice as many people in the services, from many states. Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tennessee, will be here two days. Dr. Robert L. Moyer, dean of the Northwestern Bible School and Evangelical Seminary of Minneapolis, will be here for four full days. Rev. Sam Morris of the Voice of Temperance Broadcast, who has just returned from a great revival at Macon, Georgia, with the largest Baptist church in Georgia, a revival that had to be moved to the large city auditorium seating 4,500—Brother Morris will be with us for the Bible School, probably the entire week, certainly most of it, God willing. Dr. Robert J. Wells of Waterloo, Iowa, will be with us the entire eight days. Some other remarkable singers will be here and all hearts will rejoice when the finished program is published soon. We hope out of town people will make their plans now to come, and Dallas people will draw a ring around the calendar and pray daily for a wonderful time of blessing.

## Wars and Rumors of Wars!

OR, PRESENT WORLD CONDITIONS IN THE LIGHT OF BIBLE PROPHECY

SUNDAY NIGHT SERMON OF PASTOR JOHN R. RICE AT FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST TABERNACLE, 201 E. TENTH ST.

Are you troubled and in the dark about the outcome of present European affairs? Would you like to know what to expect next, what is on God's calendar for the world? Then you surely would like to hear this plain Bible sermon. The following will be discussed and proven by the Bible:

1. Czechoslovakia has more to fear from Italy than from Germany. Eventually Czechoslovakia is to be absorbed in the restored Roman Empire.

2. That the British Empire, already falling to pieces, will dwindle away still further to finally be superseded by a dictatorship around the Mediterranean Sea.

3. That the trouble in Palestine now between Jews and Arabs is more important than the trouble in Czechoslovakia since Jews as a race must go through a white-hot period of persecution of three and a half years, hated by all the nations of the world. The last battle of the great world war which is coming will be fought in Palestine.

4. That the dictatorships of the present time in Germany, Italy, Russia, Japan, etc., are rapidly clearing a way for the Antichrist, a world dictator.

5. That things are rapidly ripening for the return of Christ to take away His saints.

6. That the only sure peace for anybody in this war-torn, sinful world is to trust in Jesus Christ and know personal salvation through His blood.

This will be a fresh, new Bible message. It will not be dry, statistical, nor long, drawn out, but a warm-hearted, clear, easily understood Bible message, with an evan-

gelistic appeal. I beg you, do not miss it.

Church members will do well to tell their friends about the services. Many will want to attend. Services begin at 7:30 (not 7:45). Sunday night. Great singing, plain gospel preaching in the power of Christ. We expect souls saved and hearts blessed. The public is invited.

#### "Send the Multitude Away"

Sunday morning Pastor John R. Rice will preach on the words of the disciples, before Jesus fed the five thousand, "Send the multitude away that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place." Does the church want to send away from our doors the multitudes who need the gospel? Are they willing to let Christian Scientists, Spiritualists, Modernists, and worldly amusements get those who ought to be in our Sunday School Sunday morning? Do we say that we do not have bread to feed this multitude of lost people in Dallas? This will be a very plain, searching message by the pastor, a help to every Christian to feel his responsibility for soul winning.

We will observe the Lord's Supper. We hope as nearly as possible that the entire membership will be present with all of our friends. There will be an invitation for sinners to accept Christ.

#### A Sunday School Where People Actually Learn the Bible

Sunday School begins at 9:30. All classes study the Bible alone, with no modernistic Sunday School quarterlies. Adults will be especial-

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## How Can I KNOW I Am Saved?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

about rejoicing over that fact, exulting even more in the certainty of their salvation than that devils were subject to them and that miracles were worked by their hands and their word. Jesus said:

"Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the Spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

This joy is the heritage of every Christian and we ought to enjoy our heritage. Joy comes from knowing, not supposing or wishing nor doubting. Romans 5:11 says:

"And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

Assuredly then, a child of God ought to be able to say, "We know that we have passed from death unto life."

### Some Christians Do Not Know They Are Saved

Satan has a doctrine that one cannot know certainly that he is saved. If you believe the Scriptures quoted above, you see how false and wicked is that teaching. It is not presumptuous to say we know we are saved if we have trusted Jesus Christ. Rather, it is unbelief and dishonors Christ if we doubt it after we have committed our souls to the Lord Jesus Christ who died to save us. Certainly one can know that he is saved.

But Satan has another doctrine too, that causes lots of trouble. He teaches multitudes that since they do not know they are saved,

then surely they are not. However, thank God, ignorance is no proof that one is lost. Ignorance of the Bible causes much doubt, much unhappiness, but being theologically ignorant cannot lose the soul of one who has truly trusted in Christ.

When Jesus returns to the earth at the close of the great tribulation period and to His throne at Jerusalem there will be a great separation of the people of the nations who will be gathered before Him at Jerusalem. Matthew 25:31 and following says:

"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

"And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

"And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

"Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

"When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

"Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Strange it is, but many of those whom the Saviour will welcome so gladly into His kingdom, will be surprised that they were counted worthy to enter! Having loved and trusted in their hearts the Lord Jesus whom they never saw nor heard much about, these converts of the great tribulation time will have nevertheless shown evidence of a real change of heart in their attitude toward the persecuted brethren of the Lord Jesus.

In my ministry I have met many, many Christians who have had long periods of doubt about their salvation. They trusted in Christ the best they knew how but they did not learn the Word of God, did not become familiar with God's many, many promises about everlasting life to those who believe. Satan had an opportunity to bring in doubts and fears. Those who are saved sometimes do not have the certainty of it in their hearts as they ought.

### I Doubted Three Years

How well I remember when I, a boy about nine years old, heard the story of the prodigal son, one Sunday morning. I was hungry of heart. My mother had gone to Heaven. I immediately trusted Christ and came out boldly to claim Him. Just then I should have been taught the Word of God and had it made clear to me that one who trusts in Christ has everlasting life, purchased by the blood shed on Calvary. But instead of that, when I went home, my dear father did not believe I knew enough to be saved but discouraged me. He said when I was old enough to understand about repentance and regeneration, etc., I should be saved. I had the utmost confidence in my father's wisdom. I knew he was a devout Christian and a wise and good man. So I threw away all my assurance that day and for more than three sad years I did not claim to be a Christian nor did I suppose that I was. And on the way to school the next morning I knelt under a willow tree in little Pecan Creek and prayed for others to be saved, not knowing that my hunger to see others saved was an evidence that I had truly been born again.

When I was twelve or thirteen I so longed to be sure I was saved.

I prayed and asked others to pray for me that I might be saved. Again and again I called upon the Lord, wondering why some marvelous change did not take place, some overwhelming joy, some rapture, some supernatural evidence. Finally, worn out and at my wit's end, I arose from my bed one night and on my knees I left the thing with God, telling Him that I had worried enough about it and I knew nothing else to do but leave it with Him. I had peace, though no great rapture nor manifest change. I began to read my Bible. Soon I learned the blessing of John 5:24 which says:

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

The book of John became precious to me and many, many times over I read the blessed promises that one who believes in Christ already has everlasting life. I saw then that my salvation was settled years before when I trusted Jesus with a boyish faith and claimed Him as my Saviour. I was a child of God even during those doubting years.

Strange it is that God's Word makes clear a Christian can KNOW, can absolutely KNOW, that he is saved, wonderfully saved, with his name written in the Lamb's book of life, and kept safe by the power of God — yet many there be who do not know whether they are saved or not. They fear, they doubt, they search their hearts, they cry, they pray but they have no assurance! Why is it, since Christians can know that they are saved, that many Christians do not know?

### Satan, The Deceiver, The Father of Lies

All real assurance is by the Word of God. All doubts contrary to this Word are caused by Satan. Satan himself is a liar and the father of lies — there is no truth in him, Jesus said (John 8:44). If we are to be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, we must put on the whole armour of God" (Eph. 6:11). Satan's principal business from the beginning has been to cause people to doubt God's Word. He caused Eve to doubt the plain Word of God that "the day that ye eat thereof ye shall surely die." Today he causes many foolish people to doubt the Bible. It is his constant effort to cause every Christian to distrust the promise of God. For that reason Hebrews 12:1 says that doubt or unbelief, lack of faith, is the "besetting sin." Christians should be on their guard then against the devices of Satan. If Satan can get a child of God to doubt that he is saved, he has stolen away the Christian's happiness. He has stolen away the Christian's influence, too, for who can go out to win souls, or stand up and testify for Jesus, if he does not know in his heart that he has been forgiven and saved? Who wants to be a hypocrite, professing what he does not know for sure that he has? One is spoiled for Christian service if he does not know he is saved. Discouragement, inactivity, susceptibility to temptation and sometimes an open surrender to sin and a backslidden life follow doubt about whether one is saved or not. It is the devil's business to make the saints of God believe that they are lost, that God's promises are not for them.

### Some Devices of Satan

"We are not ignorant of his devices" (II Cor. 2:11), said the apostle Paul concerning Satan. What are some of the devices of Satan to make a child of God doubt and fear about his salvation? I name some of them.

First, Satan confuses the plan of salvation. Satan is the author of the doctrine of salvation by works, by good deeds, by merits. Down through the ages the trail of false religion is cluttered with this same doctrine. Cain believed in salvation by works and not by blood. The Pharisee in the temple bragged "I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican" (Luke 18:11). The Judaizers who deceived and misled the Galatian Christians taught salvation by works, that is, by circumcision and keeping the Mosaic law. Satan is always strong for a do, do

religion, and never wants a Christian to depend upon the blessed truth stated by Jesus upon the cross that, "It is finished!" (John 19:30). Thank God salvation is done by the Lord Jesus for those who trust in His shed blood. One who believes in salvation by works must sometimes certainly doubt his salvation if he be sincere and not an utter hypocrite. For the heart is deceitful and wicked and the dearest Christians on earth sometimes grieve and mourn over the wickedness of their own hearts. There is certainly no assurance of salvation, no certainty of everlasting life to be found in human merit. Satan's emphasis upon man's work instead of God's grace is back of most of the doubts and lack of assurance of salvation from which Christians sometimes suffer.

Second, and very similar to the first reason for doubt is this: Satan is forever having you look to yourself instead of looking to Christ. Satan, the old liar and deceiver, says to a lost sinner, "Look at yourself. Look how moral you are. Look how you pay your debts. See how good you are compared with some church members? You do not need a change of heart. You are as good now as most Christians." So the sinner goes on in sin and boasts about his goodness. Soon, however, the wickedness that is in every unregenerate heart begins to show and sin begins to enslave the sinner. The sinner begins to reap the deadly wages. The respectable sinner soon becomes an outrageous sinner. And then does Satan tell the man that he needs to flee to Christ to be saved? No, no! Instead, Satan then says, "Now look how wicked you are. There is no chance for you to be saved. You are too mean to be a Christian. You certainly would be a hypocrite if you pretended to turn to Christ and be saved. You must wait until you are better, wait until you can live a good life, wait until you see whether or not you can make good." Satan is a deceiver, I say, the father of lies, and one of his chief methods of deceit is getting the sinner who needs salvation to look to self instead of Christ.

And this is the same policy of Satan with regard to a Christian's assurance. Satan knows that he cannot get the soul of one who has been truly born again, one whose sins are all laid on Jesus and paid for on the cross and blotted out of God's remembrance. But Satan is anxious to steal the peace and joy of a Christian if he cannot steal his soul. So Satan's device is to say to the Christian, "Look at your heart. Do you see how you lost your temper? That proves you are not a Christian. If you were a real Christian you wouldn't have periods of doubt. If you were really a Christian you would feel like Mr. Jones that you heard testify at prayer meeting. You don't have the ecstasy, the dreams, the visions that a Christian ought to have. You don't shout like a Christian ought to shout. You don't have any experience like some Christians have. You don't feel like praying. You don't have your prayers answered. Surely you are not a Christian."

So says Satan, and he may even quote Scripture or use other Christians to cause doubts, urging you to look at self and trust in feelings. And so the poor Christian, listening to the deceiver, looks in his own heart and sure enough there things look as bad as Satan pictured them! A man finds that his heart is cold, he remembers that he did lose his temper, that he is tempted by many sins he never thought would bother him after he was saved. Looking all about he sees very little in his heart to encourage him that he is a child of God. Conscience reminds him of his guilt. Memory tortures him with scenes of the past, which surely, he thinks, could not have occurred in the life of a Christian. The more a man looks at himself the more he is certain to be discouraged if he be honest, for the heart is wicked. Any Christian would be foolish to depend upon the goodness of his own heart for any thirty minutes in his life. God's Word says about Christians, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (I John 1:8). Doubting comes because we look in and do not look up to Christ. The death of Christ on the cross paid for man's sin. His love is unfailing. His promises are yea and amen and

cannot be broken. Look to the lovely Christ and the price He paid, and the love He bears if you would have assurance that your sins are forgiven, after you have truly trusted Him.

Third, doubt comes in because of sin and surrender to temptation. The reason many Christians do not "feel right" is because they do not do right. One of the terrible results of sin is that it shuts out the face of Christ. "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth" (I John 1:6). Many a person has lost the conscious joy of the Holy Spirit's approval and thought that he lost salvation or that perhaps he never had it. Satan cunningly tempts one to sin, and then uses the grief and reproach in the heart over sin as an evidence that one is not saved.

Fourth, people do not have assurance of salvation because they are not familiar with the Bible, the Word of God. Some one has well said, "It is the blood secures, and the word assures, salvation."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

## The Scofield Reference Bible

The Bible itself should be the first book of the Word of God is first and all comments, helps at hard places, headings, book outlines, concordances, in the Scofield Reference Bible are the in the world. To this, all the great agree. The helps were edited by R. C. Weston, D. D., LL.D., President, Crozer M. Gray, D. D., Dean of Moody Bible D. D., Author, "The Gospel of John," D. D., Author, Editor, Teacher; R. C. in Xenia (U. P.) Theological Seminary, Toronto Bible Institute; A. C. Prophetic Word," etc., etc.; Rev. Editor, Teacher, the greatest arm ever to prepare a reference Bible. It is a really great commentary on the

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### THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of John R. Rice

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## How Can I KNOW I Am Saved?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

People are saved by faith in Christ, in His shed blood that paid for man's sins. But one may be saved and unhappy, saved and not sure of it. One may have *salvation* but not the *joy* of salvation. The assurance comes by the Word of God. On this matter, as in many others, the Scripture is true that "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Feelings may come and go but "the word of our God shall stand for ever." Depending on feelings, we will be like our colored friends who sing:

"Oh, I am sometimes up and I'm sometimes down,  
Coming for to carry me home."  
But if we depend upon the Word of God we can say with Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12). So when Satan divorces us from the Bible, keeps us from constant meditation upon it,

he then breaks down our assurance and joy.

Beware of Satan and his wiles. Let him not deceive you on the plan of salvation. People are saved by the shed blood of Christ, by grace, and not by works. Beware that you look to Jesus and not in to your own heart to find assurance of your salvation. Beware that you do not let unconfessed sins linger in your heart and cloud the witness of the Holy Spirit and so make a breeding ground for doubts and fears. And above all, learn from the Bible the true assurance of salvation. Read it, meditate in it day and night, and rest your soul securely upon the blessed promises therein written. Feelings change, but the Bible does not change! Emotions come and go, but the promises of God are Yea and Amen! As long as John 3:16 and John 5:24 and Romans 8:35-39 are true, then the soul that has trusted in Christ is saved and saved eternally.

### The Facts About Salvation

The facts about salvation must be known if one is to have full assurance about his soul being saved.

1. *First of all, man is a sinner, a helpless, hopeless, inexcusably wicked sinner.* Notice these Scripture statements about sin:

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way" (Isa. 53:6).

"For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not" (Eccl. 7:20).

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:8, 9).

"What then? Are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jew and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; as it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one" (Rom. 3:9-12).

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:20).

"For there is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:22, 23).

All accountable people in the world are so wicked by nature that it is utterly impossible for them to do good works enough to be saved. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil" (Jer. 13:23).

2. *The second thing to know is that Christ Himself has paid for all the sins of the world.* Notice the following Scriptures:

"Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:3).

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Cor. 5:21).

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" (Rom. 10:4).

"And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (I John 2:2).

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:18, 19).

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Clearly settle it then that all the sins of the whole world were paid for on the cross; sins of the past, of the present, of the future. Jesus Christ tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9).

3. Next, it becomes clear then that *salvation is wholly of grace and not of works.*

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Rom. 4:5).

God's grace is so great that He counted Christ a sinner for us and now counts us righteous in Christ's stead. Therefore, "Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin" (Rom. 4:7, 8). God imputes to the sinner the righteousness of Christ. God forgives a sinner, then, for Jesus' sake.

4. *This salvation is received by faith.* One who believes in Christ already has everlasting life. In John 1:12 we are told,

"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

"He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18).

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life" (John 6:47).

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

"And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" (Acts 13:38, 39).

5. And last of all a marvelous, glorious fact is that *it is everlasting life which one gets by trusting Christ.* It is not life until you sin, nor life until you fail, but *everlasting* life. One who has trusted Christ already has everlasting life, has already passed from death unto life and is not going to come into judgment. If you are a child of God you may be chastened for your sins. You may lose your joy. You may lose your influence. You may doubt your salvation. Sin can bring trouble anywhere it is tolerated — terrible, awful trouble. But, thank God, sin cannot make God break His promise, cannot make everlasting life less than everlasting!

Jesus promised:

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish..." (John 10:27, 28).

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

"Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 8:38, 39).

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (I Peter 1:5). Jesus said, "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). A child of God can never lose this blessed everlasting life.

(Continued Next Week)

### A MOTHER WRITES

I am one of your subscribers to *The Sword of the Lord*. My son sent it to me. Now I want it sent on to someone that hasn't it to keep the stone rolling. It is the most help I ever had and sanction every word in it. So I am sending \$1.00 to pass it on.

Mrs. S. A. O.  
Cherryvale, Kansas

## The False Front of The Federal Council

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

To prove this position, one need only state that Creed. For many centuries Evangelical Christianity has stood for a verbally inspired Bible, for the Virgin Birth, for the atoning sacrifice of Christ, for His physical resurrection from the grave, and His ascension to the right hand of the Father to become man's intercessor. Scarcely one of these truths (much less all of them) is held by the leaders of the Federal Council of Churches. If it were necessary, we could give abundant quotations to prove this contention. Not only have they denied the verbal inspiration of the Bible, but they have denied every other virile definition of inspiration. Among their leaders almost uniformly the sacrificial atonement of Christ is rejected, while His promised return is "anathema" with practically every one of them. The views which they are now promulgating are the views of the Unitarianism of fifty years ago, and the result is a spiritual dearth in the churches, decreasing baptisms, a descending scale in giving, widespread spiritual declension. Thousands of churches are without a baptism. Hundreds, if not thousands, of their preachers even deny the necessity of regeneration.

*They Align Themselves With the Internationals!* In the 1927 Handbook of the Churches (the official publication of the Federal Council) they declare their purpose to grapple with "all economic, industrial, political and international questions." Their literature features discussions of fantastic proposals involving intermeddling with the affairs of foreign nations.

As if it were not enough to assent to the Moscow idea of First, Second, Third and Fourth Internationals, they have now absolutely arranged to subject Christianity itself to the same international expression, a meeting being actually arranged for the summer of 1938 in Holland with a view to the formation of "A WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES." The shade of Inter-Church walks again!

Later in this discussion we will show what such a movement will mean, both to Christianity and to the individual conscience — skepticism the first and obliterating the second.

Furthermore their false creed is fruiting in THE ADVOCACY OF IMMORALITY.

We have already referred to the manual, "Young People's Relationships," originally published with the name of their Committee upon it. We hesitate to quote from this and many of the other books which have met with their recommendation for study, because we grieve to give added publicity to such filth. We frankly confess that we would not ourselves have believed their statements on the subject of sex had we not faced these in cold print, and read and re-read the rot. Without advertising other volumes recommended for study by the Federal Council of Churches — volumes that common decency would deny circulation through the mails — let us say that in these volumes *self-abuse* is approved and even advocated! one of the recommended authors sanctions cohabitation *outside the marriage relation*, the language being, "Such unions are numerous; what we need is sociality to recognize them as worthy. We already admit that they are

### MY TESTIMONY

I did not take His name in vain, In haunts of vice I did not go, I did not drink, I did not smoke — But, oh, I needed Jesus so!

I passed the grim walls of the jail And shuddered at their towering gloom, Yet knew not I was a prisoner too, For I was lost and bound for doom.

Oh, praise His name! He cleansed my heart, Although a "good" heart it had seemed, And saved me from my "righteousness,"

A sinner — but my Christ redeemed!

—Ruth Ann Stevens,  
Hamburg, N. Y.

legitimate and beneficial." Another of their commended authors says, "A greater freedom between the sexes before marriage, even if it has sometimes led to license, is not only beneficial, but the proper method of preparing for a more intimate permanent union." Believe it or not, some of these recommended authors go so far as to favor homosexuality — sodomy. Little wonder that scores of churches, rather than longer endure this relationship to their denomination, have withdrawn from it, righteously denying their fellowship to brethren who are willing to brook such departures from fundamental Christianity. When one has finished reading the Manual for Leaders on "Young People's Relationships" he is ready to join with General Fries who said, with reference to a sex pamphlet endorsed by the Committee on Marriage and the Home of the Federal Council:

"Had this pamphlet come out of Russia direct as one of their means of breaking down all morality, the family, the home, as the final step toward communism, we would have felt it well qualified to carry out the intent of its authors."

"What a manual," comments Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling in "The Red Network," "for use, as it recommends itself, of 'Denominational Summer Conferences, Young People's Societies and Study Groups in churches, in Hi-Y Clubs, and Girl Reserves!'" Mark you it was prepared, as she points out, by Benjamin S. Winchester, Secretary of the Federal Council and contributing editor of the official Federal Council Bulletin, while Federal Council officials Rev. Samuel McCrea Cavert (executive secretary of the Council and editor of the Bulletin), and Rev. Worth M. Tippy (secretary of the Council and contributing editor of its Bulletin) collaborated.

We hereby declare our conviction that the Christian people in the denominations will not continue to endure the denominational affila-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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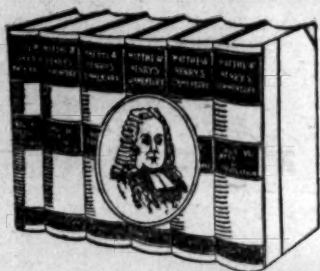
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## The False Front of The Federal Council

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

tions which now exist, and the enormous expenditures of money taken from the pockets of Christian people and from the cause of Christian missions in order to continue this rotten and "pink" program.

### False Conclusions

There are many more of these than can be mentioned within the limits of a brief pamphlet; but to three or four of them we must refer.

*They Favor the Abolition of Individuality!* When one's ability to create wealth is denied exercise, when one's genius in invention is refused reward, when one's choice of a life-mate is outlawed, and when one's child becomes subject of the State and is no longer owned by his own parents, nor for his course and conduct are they held responsible, individuality loses its mean-

ing; and while the average leader in the Federal Council would not advocate these particular procedures, his advocacy of the equal distribution of wealth and his known sympathy with regimentation leads to just such results. If any one doubts that that is the tendency, let him recall how Kagawa was publicized and paraded across the American continent as the Christian minister who wanted to win a million converts to Christ, but the fact came out that his objective was a million "coöperatives" instead! "THE KINGDOM OF GOD," according to E. Stanley Jones, has no kinship whatever to the Bible conception of that term, but bears a close relationship to the Bolshevik customs which are receiving increased commendation from the pen of this erstwhile Christian missionary.

*They Almost Uniformly Plead for the Practice of Collectives.* In his most recent book, "The Choice Before Us," Dr. E. Stanley Jones recommends centralized ownership and operation by the State of all the means of production. If this were carried out, it would mean the confiscation by the Government of all factories, farms, and private business. In the book referred to, Dr. Jones lauds Communism as being closer to the spirit of Christianity than any other system, past or present. In fact he goes to the extreme length of saying that Communism is preferable to Fascism, and that Fascism is a more idealistic system than American capitalism! The expressions in his book have been received with sympathetic approval by those who seek to organize "A Communist United Front" in the United States. In this connection let it not be forgotten that E. Stanley Jones has become the especial mouthpiece of the Federal Council of Churches in America.

Finally, *They Seek Dominion Over the Churches and Even the Conscience of Men.* Sometime ago a Religious Publicity Conference was held in Atlantic City, at which the chief topic was the radio. Dr. Charles S. MacFarland was then the Secretary of the General Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and he is reported to have said, "Local fans do not want to hear local preachers. Local stations do not want any denominationalism. The ultimate plan yet to be worked out will probably be for local Federations of churches to endorse and local stations to present national programs provided on Sunday by the Federal Council, whereby all will have their choice of hearing Dr. Cadman, Dr. Poling, or Dr. Fosdick, and perhaps a few other selected preachers who have received full endorsement of the Federal Council. The Federal Council is now surveying the entire field throughout the country and is signing up all available stations to carry their programs. Mr. Goodman of the New York Federation of Churches is at present on an extensive trip through the central, western and southern sections of the country. We believe that as a result of his tour, presenting the matter forcefully to local federations and local broadcasting stations, fifty or more additional stations will be signed up with iron-clad contracts obliging them to use the Federal Council religious programs and none other. It is also likely that Mr. Goodman can induce these stations to join the National Broadcasting Company's chain, thereby presenting the most extensive and powerful chain for the broadcasting of religious services yet devised. By October the distribution through local stations of the Federal Council program will cover three or four times the present scale."

*Iron-Clad Contracts to Be Signed Up.* Local federations are to sign up "iron-clad contracts obliging them to use the Federal Council religious programs and none others." If this plan succeeds, Dr. MacFarland states, "In the future no denomination or church will be able to secure any time whatever on the air unless they are willing to pay prohibitively high prices for brief periods of broadcast. Our hope is that with the gradual development of our plan we will not be obliged to confine our talent to New York, but will be able to use talented ministers in other localities who meet our requirements for popular broadcasts."

The only hope held out is that

there may be an opportunity for "talented ministers in other localities who 'meet our requirements' to do some broadcasting."

During the discussion, the following question was answered as follows:

Question: "Did you mean, Dr. MacFarland, that it is the expectation of the Federal Council to control all religious broadcasting, making it impossible for denominational conventions to get on the air and for pastors to broadcast sermons without Federal Council sanction?"

Answer by Dr. MacFarland: "Precisely! The committee feels this to be a wise policy. There will be no more free hook-ups on national assemblies, except as the denominations want to raise large sums to purchase time in competition with commercial accounts. We would be very happy to have this meeting appoint a committee of four or five to confer with Mr. Goodman with a view to furthering this plan."

The "Lutheran Church Herald" commenting upon this said, "We look upon this movement as a brazen attempt to monopolize the remote control broadcasting, and force upon the nation the Cadman - Poling - Fosdick brand of counterfeit religion in the name of Protestantism. They represent a fraction of the Reformed churches,

but certainly not the 2,714,685 Lutheran communicants. Any effort to muzzle free speech by 'iron-clad contracts' to shut others out is both un-American and un-Christian. The Christian people of the nation will protest against this religious broadcasting trust."

But that is not the end. Let us remember that at the time when this country was staggering under the financial depression and missionaries were being called home by the dozen because there was no money with which to longer support them on foreign fields, ex-President Matthews boasted that an audit of their books for the year 1930 showed \$458,581.97 spent on this movement — a movement that is both anti-American and anti-Christian! The proposal now made for a "World Council" is one that looks to world-control and domination of thought and expression. Who says that the day of the Anti-Christ is not at hand? Who doubts that in The Federal Council the Anti-Christ has found one of his forerunners?

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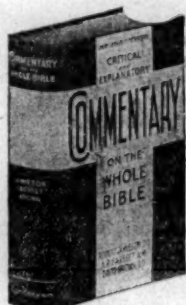
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